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PART I.

IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDERS.

CHIEF SECRETARIAT.

Reviews the Administration Report of the Revenue Department for the year 1927-28.

READ—

Letter No. C. Per. A. 15—28-29, dated the 1st October 1928, from the Revenue Commissioner in Mysore, forwarding the Report on the Administration of the Revenue Department for the year 1927-28.

ORDER No. R. 5833-92—L. R. 79-28-3, DATED 25TH JANUARY 1929.

Mr. A. K. Syed Taj Peeran, B.A., acted as Revenue Commissioner, during the absence of Mr. P. G. D'Souza on privilege leave, from the commencement of the year up to the 24th September 1927, when the latter returned to duty and continued as Revenue Commissioner during the rest of the year. There was no change of Deputy Commissioners during the year in any of the Districts except Hassan.

2. *Rainfall and Seasonal Conditions.*—Except in the Districts of Mysore, Kadur and Hassan, the total amount of rainfall recorded during the year was equal to or slightly better than that of the previous year. But some portion of the Taluks noted in the margin, suffered for want of sufficient or timely rains, and measures of relief had to be undertaken according to the requirements of each area. In parts of the Mysore and Chitaldrug Districts where scarcity

TALUKS.

1. Nagamangala.
2. Mandya.
3. Mysore.
4. Heggaddevankote.
5. Malvalli.
6. Hoskote.
7. Devanhalli.
8. Sira.
9. Pavagada.
10. Madhugiri.
11. Bagepalli.
12. Kolar.
13. Bowringpet.
14. Chitaldrug.
15. Challakere.
16. Hiriyur.

for drinking water was felt, a sum of Rs. 17,502 was spent for sinking or deepening wells, in addition to a sum of Rs. 11,098 utilised by the District Board of Mysore for the purpose. State Forests and Amrit Mahal Kavals were thrown open for free grazing of cattle in the Nagamangala Taluk of the Mysore District and in the Chitaldrug and Challakere Taluks of Chitaldrug District. A sum of Rs. 10,000 was sanctioned for the latter District for the grant of Takavi loans to purchase fodder. Remission of assessment, to the aggregate extent of Rs. 45,516, was sanctioned in respect of wet and garden lands under tanks which failed to get a supply of water. These various measures, coupled with the starting of relief works wherever necessary, helped to relieve the situation in the affected tracts.

3. *Cultivation.*—An extent of 46,295 acres was taken up for cultivation during the year as against 48,304 during the year previous; and an extent of 20,968 acres resigned as against 20,465 acres in 1926-27. On the whole, the addition to the area under occupation during the year was 25,327 acres as against 27,839 in 1926-27. The net area cropped during the year was 64,57,389 acres as against 64,28,714 in 1926-27.

4. *Darkhasts.*—Seven thousand one hundred and eighty-two applications for lands were pending disposal at the end of the year 1926-27, and 22,606 were received during the year 1927-28, making a total of 29,788. Of these 22,007 were brought to disposal. The percentage of disposals for the whole State was 73·88 as against 74·1 in the year previous. As many as 302 darkhasts have been pending for over two years and 81 for over three years. One hundred and seventy-three darkhasts have been pending for over two years in the Bangalore District, 33 in the Chitaldrug District and 31 in the Tumkur District. It has to be stated that the out-turn of disposals is not quite satisfactory.

5. *Grant of Lands to Depressed Classes.*—The rules relating to the assignment of lands to these people were revised. Nine hundred and sixty-one darkhasts were pending at the beginning of the year; the receipts numbered 3,759, and the disposals 3,242, leaving a balance of 1,478. The area granted comprised 17,987 acres and 4 guntas. The area granted has risen gradually from 4,538 acres and 16 guntas in 1924-25 to the figure given above, in 1927-28. An Adikarnataka colony and some Co-operative Societies have also been started.

6. *Avenue Trees and Topes.*—The number of avenue trees planted during the year was 84,800 as against 77,030 in the previous year. The memorable and happy occasion of the Silver Jubilee and the Birth Day of His Highness the Maharaja was taken advantage of, to plant trees on a large scale. Nine nurseries— 3 at Nanjangud, 5 at Nagamangala, 1 at Chikmagalur—were newly started during the year for rearing plants to be supplied to Village Panchayets. Special attention was devoted to planting work in the Mysore District and particularly in the Hunsur Taluk where the Village Panchayets are said to have planted about 38,000 fruit-bearing and other useful trees.

In Government Order No. R. 4769-88—L. R. 50-27-11, dated the 3rd January 1928, a sum of Rs. 300 was ordered to be provided from 1927-28 onwards for the Mysore District, Rs. 200 for each of the Maidan Districts, and Rs. 100 for each of the Malnad Districts, for encouraging the planting and growth of avenue trees.

7. *Accidental Fires.*—The number of accidental fires, during the year was 491 as against 517 in the year previous. The number of human lives lost was 56, and the value of cattle and property destroyed Rs. 7,00,645-8-0. As usual the largest number of these accidents (131) and the heaviest loss (Rs. 5,21,328-4-0) occurred in the Shimoga District. Government regret to observe in this connection that the concessions granted in Government Order No. R. 50-104—L. R. 299-25-4, dated the 17th October 1926, to agriculturists for building tiled houses have not been freely availed of. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to issue the necessary instructions to the District Officers to encourage raiyats to take advantage of the concessions offered them by Government.

8. *Jamabandy, Demand, Collection and Balance.*—The Jamabandi was completed before the Khistbandi in the Districts of Bangalore, Kolar, Kadur and Chitaldrug. The delay in the other Districts is attributed to special reasons.

The total demand for the year under Land Revenue, including Miscellaneous and arrears, at the beginning of the year, was 1,41,79,944 against 1,40,03,709 in the year 1926-27. The total demand under Land Revenue proper for the year was Rs. 1,29,69,027 or Rs. 2,31,614 more than that of the preceding year. The increase is mainly due to the additional area brought under cultivation and to the introduction of revision settlement in the Kankanhalli Taluk. The whole of the current demand was collected in the Davangere Taluk and over 99 per cent in the Chikballapur and Gundlupet Taluks. In 38 Taluks and 5 Sub-Taluks, the collection under current demand was 95 per cent and over. The total collection including arrears, during the year, was in excess of that of the previous year by Rs. 4,15,681, while the balance at the end of the year (Rs. 9,80,542) was less than at the beginning by Rs. 2,39,694. The percentage of total collections to the total demand for the year was 93·0 as against 91·3 for the year previous. The balances outstanding in the Districts of Mysore, Tumkur, Hassan, Chitaldrug and Kolar at the end of the year are rather heavy as observed by the Revenue Commissioner.

9. *Execution of Co-operative Society Decrees.*—Out of a total number of 3,400 decrees for Rs. 5,05,610 that had to be executed during the year under report, 2,040 decrees involving a sum of Rs. 2,95,800 were finally disposed of, leaving a balance of 1,360 decrees pending, as against 1,567 at the end of the year previous. The Revenue Commissioner refers in his report to certain difficulties felt by the Deputy Commissioners in promptly executing the decrees of the Co-operative Department. It is hoped that he will examine the matter in consultation with the Registrar of Co-operative Societies and report to Government what measures should, in their opinion, be taken to place this branch of revenue business on a better footing.

10. *Coercive Processes.*—There was a decrease, in the total number of coercive processes issued from 1,66,608 to 1,50,970, the amount recovered by merely issuing notices of demand being 78·9 per cent of the total recovered under this head.

11. *Loans and Advances.*—Out of a sum of Rs. 2,07,000 sanctioned by Government for the takavi and land improvement loans, a sum of Rs. 2,04,850 was distributed among the several districts; and loans amounting to Rs. 1,76,995 were actually disbursed during the year. Under Takavi, there were 1,464 applications for a sum of Rs. 2,08,407 against 1,332 applications in the preceding year for Rs. 1,47,503. The percentage of collection to the demand, however, was only 54·5 as against 66·63 in the previous year, which is very unsatisfactory. The Revenue Commissioner is requested to issue strict instructions to the Deputy Commissioners of Districts for the prompt collection of these loans and advances as they fall due.

12. *Takarar Cases.*—The total number of takarar cases received during the year was 23,380, which includes the arrears of previous years. Fifteen thousand five hundred and seventy-five were disposed of, leaving a balance of 7,805 at the close of the year, the percentage of disposal being 66·61 as against 66·15 in the year previous. This is certainly not satisfactory. Government have in their Order No. R. 4255-65—L. R. 247-27-2, dated 1st December 1927, authorised Deputy Commissioners to further delegate powers to Amildars to dispose of certain classes of these cases. Considerable improvement in this item of revenue business is possible by more prompt action on the part of District Officers.

13. *Record of Rights.*—The Record of Rights scheme was introduced in the Taluks of Davangere, including Harihar Sub-Taluk, Sagar and Bangalore during the year under report. The number of hissas recorded in the several taluks is as noted below :—

Name of Taluk	Full S. No.	Phut Hissas
Davangere	10,565	19,550
Harihar	4,348	10,308
Sagar	16,399	9,015
Bangalore	14,226	53,687

The fee demand for all the Taluks and Sub-Taluk stood at Rs. 2,14,572-8-0, the collection being Rs. 73,897-8-0, leaving a balance of Rs. 1,40,675 which, Government hope, will be collected soon. The expenditure incurred on this account was Rs. 14,797-1-2. The proposals of the Revenue Commissioner for the introduction of

the scheme into eight more taluks in the current year were sanctioned in Government Order No. R. 8793-804—L. S. 12-27-47, dated 15th May 1928. The recovery of fees in the shape of court fee stamps was introduced as an experimental measure in the Bangalore Taluk in Government Order No. R. 8146-51—L. S. 12-27-43, dated 23rd April 1928. The entertainment of recruits for training in survey work in connection with the introduction of this scheme was sanctioned in Government Order No. R. 8030-42—L. S. 12-27-42, dated 19th April 1928. Government are pleased to note that the scheme has been received with enthusiasm by the people as observed by the Revenue Commissioner.

14. *Special Schemes.*—Eight thousand eight hundred and sixty-three Village Panchayets and 240 hamlets have been constituted up to the end of the year under report. It is stated that only 19 Panchayets and 11 hamlets remain to be constituted to complete the work. Seven thousand nine hunded and ten Panchayets have taken action to levy the obligatory taxes under Section 36 of the Regulation; and 430 have agreed to levy optional taxes under Section 37 of the Regulation. The Mohatarfa tax has been abolished in all the villages of the State, whether Inam or Jaghir, as under the Panchayet Regulation, the villages can levy their own taxes. As observed in last year's review, no information has been given as to the progress made in reviving the system of periodical labour for executing works of common utility. This may be done in future reports.

At the end of the year, there were 185 village forests with an area of 54,276 acres and 32 guntas as against 138 with an area of 45,230 acres at the end of the year previous. Government regret to note that the working of these forest panchayets has not shown any marked improvement.

The number of tank panchayets at the end of the year under report was 124 as at the end of the year previous, and their working continued to be unsatisfactory. Government await the definite proposals of the Revenue Commissioner for the better working of the scheme.

15. *Conferences.*—District Conferences were held at the District Head Quarter Towns in all the Districts during the year except in the Bangalore and Chitaldrug Districts, where they were held in the first week of July 1928. Along with the District Conference, a Local Self-Government Conference was held at Tumkur and a Municipal Conference at Kolar. Except in the Chitaldrug, Hassan and Kolar Districts, Taluk Conferences were held in some Taluks of each District. Lectures of general interest on sanitation, cottage industries, child welfare, etc., were delivered by the Officers of the respective departments at these conferences. Practical demonstrations in weaving, physical culture, etc., were also organised. Exhibitions of indigenous articles were held in certain districts, the most noteworthy of them being the Shimoga District Exhibition presided over by Mr. C. S. Balasundaram Iyer, Member of Council.

16. *Tanks.*—Three hundred and eleven major and 596 minor tanks were restored during the year at a cost of Rs. 3,13,671 and Rs. 2,73,416 respectively. The Deputy Commissioners of Districts have inspected 314 major and 405 minor tanks and the Sub-Division Officers 605 major and 884 minor tanks, during the year under report. Revised Rules regarding the inspection of tanks were issued in Government Order No. R. 8075-84—L. R. 11-27-8, dated 20th April 1928. A synopsis of rules relating to the restoration, maintenance and inspection of tanks, as well as a list of minor tanks for the restoration of which contributions had been received from the raiyats, were published by Government in pamphlet form and distributed among the Officers of the Revenue and Public Works Departments for information and guidance, and to ensure a better grip over the work on hand.

17. *Provincial Toll-gates.*—Twenty-nine additional State Fund toll-gates were established from 1st March 1928 on the provincial roads. Of the 19 old toll-gates that existed before, 18 were continued during the year, and the remaining one which had been abolished, was revived from 1st March 1928.

18. *Inspections.*—All the Deputy Commissioners toured for more than the prescribed minimum number of days, *viz.*, 120 and their inspections of the subordinate offices in their charges have been fairly satisfactory. The inspection and touring work of the Sub-Division Officers is capable of further improvement; and it is hoped that the Revenue Commissioner will strictly regulate the tours of these officers so that they may be more systematic and fruitful of results.

19. *Changes in Administrative Divisions.*—Bowringpet Taluk was placed under the Sub-Division Officer, Malur, and Kolar Taluk under the Treasury Assistant Commissioner, Kolar, by Government Order No. R. 548-608—L. R. 377-26-4, dated 19th July 1927. Mandya and Malvalli Taluks were constituted into a new Revenue Sub-Division with effect from 1st July 1928. Closepet Sub-Taluk was ordered to be converted into a pucca Taluk from 1st July 1928.

20. *Miscellaneous.*—The Revenue Commissioner disposed of 607 appeals during the year, while the Government dealt with 181 appeals and revision applications. The Inspector of Office Systems inspected 6 District Offices, 5 Sub-Division Offices and one Taluk Office during the year, and the notes of inspections were sent to the Revenue Commissioner for necessary action.

21. *Recruitment and Training of Officials.*—The experience of the past two years having shown the desirability of continuing the system of direct recruitment to the Amildari grade, eight Revenue Probationers were appointed during the year, and arrangements made for giving them the prescribed training.

In regard to the officials in the subordinate service to be promoted as Amildars, a Committee was appointed to make a selection with special reference to the aptitude of the candidates for executive work.

An improved scale of pay has been sanctioned for Sheikdars who are now designated "Revenue Inspectors" and will be brought into effect as soon as the question of reducing the number of hoblis is settled. Ten Probationary Revenue Inspectors were appointed during the year, of whom seven belong to the backward communities.

A training class for village officers was opened at Mysore; but owing to paucity of applicants, the school intended to be opened at Bangalore could not be started. Government have since ordered that the prescribed course of training should be undergone by all persons to be newly appointed as shanbhogs and patels as well as by those who have been employed for less than three years and are not more than thirty five years of age.

22. *General.*—In concluding this review it may be useful to recapitulate, very briefly the more important measures affecting the revenue administration that were considered or sanctioned in the course of the year. Reference has already been made to the progress made in the introduction of the Record of Rights system in certain taluks and its contemplated extension to other areas. Pending such extension, which must necessarily be slow and gradual, it was thought advisable to secure some of the benefits of the Record of Rights even in non-record areas by improving the present system of registering holdings. With this object it was ordered that no minimum area need be prescribed for survey numbers, that sub-division of survey numbers be freely permitted, and that nominal khates be done away with by revenue officers, after due enquiry even in the absence of applications from the parties concerned. As a result of these measures, it is hoped that the village revenue records will more correctly reflect the actual facts of land holding, and that the interests of persons holding shares in survey numbers will be more effectively safeguarded.

The Land Revenue Code was amended by Regulation XVII of 1928 with the object among others, of giving effect to the orders of Government on the recommendations made by the Inam Commission.

The Committee appointed to examine and suggest improvements relating to irrigation works, has submitted its recommendations together with a draft Irrigation Bill, which is under the consideration of the Government.

The rules for the grant of remission of assessment on irrigated lands during years of scanty supply of water were further liberalised. Under the revised rules, the grant of remission is madepossible even when the affected area consists of the atchkat of a single tank.

The system of famine administration came under critical review in the light of the experience gained in administering relief measures during the distress which prevailed during the period 1923-1925. It has always been the policy of this Government to adopt measures of relief on the first appearance of signs of distress without waiting to test its intensity by elaborate methods. This policy has been reaffirmed and the mode of administering relief during the pretest period has been laid down in detail in the Famine Code.

The Tank Maintenance Rules have been revised with a view to enable Revenue Officers to take prompt action for executing maintenance work in cases where it is neglected by the holders of land responsible for the up-keep of the tank.

The rules for the grant of land on darkhast were revised and consolidated and the opportunity was taken (*i*) to delete certain obsolete rules, such as those purporting to govern the grant of lands on coyle tenure for Musafirkhanas, Chattrams, etc., (*ii*) to enhance the powers of Revenue Officers to grant lands without auction for an upset price in suitable cases, (*iii*) to extend the concessions given to members of the depressed classes to acquire lands for *bona fide* cultivation, and (*iv*) to place the rules regarding grant of lands for the cultivation of coffee, tea, cardamom, etc., on a more satisfactory footing.

The fees levied for the manufacture of earth salt were reduced in order to give some relief to the people engaged in this useful but decadent industry.

The system of levying tolls on State Fund roads was examined by a Committee with particular reference to the possibility of removing any hardship caused to agriculturists by this impost. On the recommendation of the Committee, the practice of levying tolls on animals has been done away with, while exemptions have been granted in respect of carts carrying manure, agricultural implements, etc. The principle that toll-gates should be at least 25 miles apart from each other has also been accepted.

N. MADHAVA RAO,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Register of Vacancies.

READ—

Paragraphs 12 and 13 of the Manual of Rules relating to the Recruitment to the subordinate ranks of the Public Service about maintaining in the form given in Appendix V of the Manual, a register of vacancies in the Offices of Unit Officers and in those of officers empowered to make appointments and subordinate to the Unit Officers.

2. Letter No. A. 1062-28, dated 16th October 1928, from the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, bringing to notice that the form of register of vacancies given in Appendix V of the Manual of Rules relating to recruitment, does not contain headings for noting particulars of pay of the vacancy and the consequential vacancy to be dealt with, and that the desirability of having headings for noting dates of occurrence and report of vacancy and of submission of "A" statement may also be considered, and submitting a draft of a revised form for approval.

ORDER NO. 6069-6168—C. R. B. 21-28-1, DATED 30TH JANUARY 1929.

The form suggested by the Deputy Commissioner, Mysore District, is approved with certain modifications, as shown in the annexure.

2. Government are pleased to direct that the register of vacancies in the Offices of Unit Officers be maintained under the headings given in the appended form.

All officers empowered to make appointments and subordinate to the Unit Officers will also maintain in their offices in the same form, a register of vacancies of appointments within their powers of patronage.

N. MADHAVA RAO,
Chief Secretary to Government.